

(a) growing a culture of a host cell in a suitable culture medium; and  
(b) purifying the protein from the culture,

wherein said host cell is transformed with a polynucleotide operably linked to an expression control sequence, and wherein said polynucleotide comprises a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of

- (1) a nucleotide sequence encoding the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID 2;
- (2) a nucleotide sequence encoding the IL-13R $\beta$  binding chain varying from the sequence of the nucleotide sequence encoding the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 as a result of degeneracy of the genetic code; and
- (3) a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridizing under stringent conditions to a nucleotide sequence encoding the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2; and
- (4) an allelic variant of the nucleotide sequence encoding the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.

*3*  
79. (Amended) The protein of claim 78, wherein said nucleotide sequence is that of a nucleotide sequence encoding the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.

80. (Amended) The protein of claim 78, wherein said nucleotide sequence encodes the IL-13R $\beta$  binding chain varying from the sequence encoding the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 as a result of the degeneracy of the genetic code.

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83. (Amended) An isolated IL-13R $\beta$  protein comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2;
- (b) the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 from amino acids 23 to 342;
- (c) the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 from amino acids 365 to 380; and
- (d) fragments of (a)-(c) which bind IL-13 or a biologically active fragment thereof.

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87. (Amended) An isolated IL-13R $\beta$  protein comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) the mature sequence of the IL-13 receptor chain protein, IL-13R $\beta$ ;

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- (b) the extracellular domain of sequence (a); and
- (c) the intracytoplasmic domain sequence of (a).
- (d) fragments of (a)-(c) which bind IL-13 or a biologically active fragment thereof.

111. (Amended) A protein produced according to a process comprising:

- (a) growing a culture of a host cell in a suitable culture medium; and
- (b) purifying the protein from the culture,

wherein said host cell is transformed with a polynucleotide operably linked to an expression control sequence, and wherein said polynucleotide comprises a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of

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- (1) the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 from nucleotide 53 to nucleotide 1192;
- (2) a nucleotide sequence encoding the IL-13R $\beta$  binding chain varying from the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 from nucleotide 53 to nucleotide 1192 as a result of degeneracy of the genetic code;
- (3) a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridizing under stringent conditions to the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 from nucleotide 53 to nucleotide 1192; and
- (4) an allelic variant of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 from nucleotide 53 to nucleotide 1192.

112. (Amended) The protein of claim 111, wherein said nucleotide sequence comprises the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 from nucleotide 53 to nucleotide 1192.

113. (Amended) The protein of claim 111, wherein said nucleotide sequence comprises a nucleotide sequence encoding the IL-13R $\beta$  binding chain varying from the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 from nucleotide 53 to nucleotide 1192 as a result of degeneracy of the genetic code.

Please cancel claims 48-51, 74, 85, and 88 without prejudice.